



Congressman Dave Reichert
Washington's 8th Congressional District

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REICHERT PRAISES PEACE OFFICERS LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, DC— U.S. Rep. Dave Reichert today applauded passage of House Resolution 266, supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Reichert, supports the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor federal, state and local police officers killed in the line of duty, and calls on the American public to observe the day with respect.

“This is a very personal resolution for me, and I am proud to have voted for it. I attended the 24th annual National Police Officers Memorial service yesterday in honor of the brave men and women lost in the line of duty.

I served as a cop for 33 years. I gained my life training among fellow cadets in the police academy and my fellow officers on the streets. I realize what a great sacrifice those who wear the badge make when they put their lives on the line to protect others.

Two of my best friends' names are on the memorial here in Washington, D.C. that honors fallen officers, Sam Hicks and Mike Rayburn. Sam Hicks was my partner, and a man who taught me more than I can express and served to protect everyone. I am honored today to pay tribute to his, and every fallen officer's memory.

Peace Officers Memorial Day is a significant holiday to the nation and the police community. Law enforcement officers across the country ensure our neighborhoods' well-being and make them a better place to live.”

More than 870,000 law enforcement officers serve nationwide today, more than any other time in history.

- In 2004, 153 officers across the nation were killed in the line of duty.

- Every year a law enforcement officer in the United States is killed somewhere in the United States every 53 hours.
- There are 56,000 assaults against law officers each year, resulting in 17,000 injuries.
- On September 11, 2001, 72 police officers lost their lives to terrorist attacks.

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